



Equity, Diversity & Community Outreach (EDCO) in the Office of Academic Affairs is committed to assisting LSU in identifying and implementing policies and procedures to increase diversity at LSU. EDCO builds rapport among people who are different, and provides evidence-based principles and “best practices,” which strengthen knowledge, awareness, and skills for working and learning in a diverse educational community.

Office Structure

LSU proactively cultivates and sustains a campus environment that values open dialogue, cooperation, shared responsibility, mutual respect, and cultural competence—the driving forces that enrich and enhance cutting edge research, first-rate teaching, and engaging community outreach activities. These are the tenets of our office and the objectives that guide our work.

Equity, Diversity & Community Outreach (EDCO) is committed to assuring that everyone who enters the gates of LSU feels a sense of belonging and knows that their experiences, cultural background, and ideas are welcomed and valued. In addition to providing an inclusive educational environment, EDCO promotes cultural exploration, multicultural education, and community outreach opportunities through our institutional initiatives and operating units.

EDCO Units include:

- Campus & Community Coalitions.
- Community University Partnership
- Office of Multicultural Affairs
- African American Cultural Center
- Women’s Center

These units provide programming, educational activities, and facilities where faculty, staff, students, and the greater community can engage in cultural exploration, dialogue, research, civic engagement, and learning across racial, gender, geographic, and other social lines. We believe that difference is not a force that keeps us apart, but a force that allows us to connect in creative ways.

Forever LSU

In June of 2006, LSU launched its Forever LSU Campaign in an effort to continue its success in the pursuit of excellence and academic distinction among universities worldwide. The campaign addresses four major areas or pillars: Student Support, Faculty Support, University-wide Support, and Campus Infrastructure.



Student Support

EDCO strives to increase the diversity and quality of its campus community while providing a vast array of experiences and opportunities under the tenets of academic excellence, leadership, and social growth. EDCO seeks to enrich the lives of students and contributions through the Forever LSU campaign by enabling our office and supportive units to provide:

- Scholarships
- Education Forums
- Research Opportunities
- Additional Leadership and Personal Development Programs

Faculty Support

In addition to supporting students and promoting their growth, EDCO commits itself to providing opportunities for faculty to become engaged in scholarship that will enhance diversity and promote multiculturalism. These opportunities

serve as a vital connection between faculty and undergraduate students. Similarly, our office works closely with academic college departments to recruit and retain top notch students and faculty from diverse backgrounds. Contributions to the Forever LSU Campaign will enable our office and supportive units to provide:

- Endowed Professorships in Cultural Programs – Women’s and Gender Studies, African and African American Studies, and Jewish Studies, among others
- Research Grants and Faculty Awards – funding for faculty who engage in research focused on cultural and gender issues and diversity
- Visiting Scholars Program – guest faculty from historically Black colleges and universities who teach at LSU for one semester

University Support

LSU is committed to providing all students with a balanced view of diversity in action. Contributions through the Forever LSU campaign will enable our office to provide:

- Expanded Cultural Programming — to provide more cultural experiences to the LSU campus and its visitors
- Interdisciplinary Research Opportunities — to provide awards allowing faculty the opportunity to

research areas of particular interest to underrepresented populations and community partners

- Comprehensive Lecture Series – to bring more ethnic minority, international, and women scholars, authors, and researchers to LSU for dialogue with the entire campus community

Campus Infrastructure

EDCO consists of units that provide facilities for programming



and classroom instruction. These facilities allow for campus organizations, faculty, and community members to operate in a space that creates a cultural safe space and resources. Some of these facilities are equipped with libraries, artifacts, periodicals, and meeting space. Contributions to the Forever LSU Campaign will enable EDCO to improve the quality of our facilities.

These projects would increase library collections, furnish meeting spaces, renovate interiors and exteriors, and advance technology capabilities. There are two centers that would benefit from added infrastructure:

- African American Cultural Center (see inserts for additional information)
- Women’s Center (see inserts for additional information)

"Diversity and inclusion fosters academic excellence, enhances scholarship, and affirms an appreciation for all members within and outside our campus community."

~ **Katrice Albert, PhD**

Equity, Diversity & Community Outreach



EQUITY, DIVERSITY & COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Answer the Call. Your support is vital to the future of LSU and Equity, Diversity & Community Outreach. To learn more about how you can help, contact a representative at

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